

To the Friends of the Fugitive:

The undersigned, Citizens of Syracuse, having long interested themselves in behalf of suffering strangers in Syracuse and vicinity, while in their transition state from bondage to freedom, take pleasure in stating for the satisfaction of a Generous Public, that this class of our fellow-beings are promptly entertained and safely conveyed to their permanent refuge in Canada, under the faithful and efficient management of Rev. J. W. LOUGEN, General Agent of the U. G. R. R. for Central N. Y.

We are sorry to learn from various directions, that gross imposition has been practised upon the Public by one *William Brown*, of Syracuse, who claims to be an Agent for the "African Aid Society," which Society has no real existence in Syracuse but is a mere sham. Mr. *Brown* is not authorized by either the colored people, or their true firends, to act in their behalf; and is effecting no good in this quarter, where he pretends to have the seat of his operations, and where he is known as an *impostor*.

He has evidently collected large sums of money, according to his own showing, both in the state of New York and in New England; and we are yet to learn that he has done or honestly intends to do, any good with said money.

We therefore faithfully warn and caution the public against his glaring impositions. This deceiver sometimes passes as *Professor Brown* and again as *Doct. Brown*. We are not aware of his having undertaken or done any permanent good to the Refugees in Canada. For information in that land of refuge for the hunted fugitive, we can and do with confidence refer to Rev. HIRAM WILSON, of St. Catharine's, and Rev Dr. WILLIS of Toronto.

Syracuse, Sept. 10, 1858.

JAMES FULLER,
SAMUEL J. MAY,
P. DICKINSON,

WILLIAM E. ABBOTT,
MONTGOMERY MERRICK,
THOMAS G. WHITE.

LUCIUS J. ORMSBEE,
JAMES CHANDLER,
One of the Officers of said Society.

This is to certify that the "African Aid Society," at Syracuse to which *Wm. Brown* was Agent, was abandoned or dissolved more than a year previous to the present date.

Syracuse, Sept. 8, 1858.

To All Whom it may CONCERN: — I have to state, after spending 22 years in Canada West, mainly for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the colored Refugees there, and their offspring; that I am tolerably well posted up, in regard to the true and reliable Agencies now operating in Canada for their good, as well as in the United States for such as, from time to time, are in peril on their way to freedom. I recognize Rev. J. W. LOUGEN, as the true and faithful Agent who promptly cares for the sable strangers in Central New-York, and often forwards them to me at St. Catharine's where they are all received and kindly provided for. As the current of emigration from the sea-board slave states, naturally and necessarily tends to St. Catharine's, where all who come are promptly relieved and advised for their good, and either induced at once into business or directed to other parts of Canada, there is no need of any other place of general reception in that part of the Province.

It is sad that the Public should be deceived and misled by the manifestly bogus Agency of Mr. *Wm. Brown*. My conviction is that his Agency is doing infinitely more harm than good to the colored people on either side of the national line.

HIRAM WILSON.

We have, on several occasions, deemed it our duty to put our friends in Western New-York on their guard against scheming itinerants who go around soliciting funds in the name either of the fugitives on their way to Canada, or of those who have already reached there. It is entirely too bad to have the generous sympathy created for a suffering people, squandered upon designing and scheming men, who stab the very people whom they profess to serve. A man, sometimes calling himself Professor Brown, has, according to his own account, been doing a large business, and impudently threatens to continue his impositions. Mr. LOUGEN, of Syracuse, who has the care of all fugitives, passing through that section on their way to freedom, sends us the following letter purporting to come from Brown. It bears evidence strongly against its author, and leads us to believe that he is nothing better than a downright imposter. He talks flippantly of the inferiority of the colored race, and of the superiority of his own, with all the taunting malice of an inveterate negro-hater. We give the letter as a revelation of the spirit of this man. Mr. LOUGEN is not the only one favored with the letters of Mr. Brown. He has ventured to address the Editor of the *Syracuse Journal*. That letter and the remarks of the *Journal* upon it, will, we think, prove sufficient to put the public on their guard against the bold and *complacent* Mr. Brown.—*Fred. Douglass' Paper.*

SYRACUSE, August 14, 1858.

Mr. LOUGEN: — In reading my morning lesson, I opened to the 26th chapter of Proverbs, to Solomon's observation on fools, and have thought this chapter exceedingly profitable for you. Will you read and ponder it well, and see how much of it applies to your own case? Proverbs xxvi. Then turn your eye to the 27th chapter and 22d verse of Proverbs, and read another passage to the point in your own case. — Then go to the *Journal* office, and try it on once more. Then to the Standard, and see if they will take your part again. Look then into the *Courier*, and see what you can find there in its early issue on Monday or Tuesday. Sir, then complain of me as dishonest. I do draw hard on some of your old customers, and shall be at it again soon — over \$300 in Utica and vicinity, and over \$100 in Rochester. I do oppose you as a man of color, and I am determined to oppose you in every possible way of my ability until the death. This, you know, has been my course for two years past, and of this I give you fair warning shall be my course so long as I live. I regard you a spoiled negro, in every sense of the word, and all like you. Had you common sense, as much as vanity and pride, you could easily learn that the popular Republicanism of this day has little sympathy with Radical Abolition and social equality, with the most incongruous and dangerous specimens of humanity. I humbly believe God made the negro race to be respected between the tropics, and shall advise and encourage all in my power to seek preference there. But the West Indies, the far South Africa, are the natural homes of your race. This sentiment, sir, increases with the number of the weeks. Among all classes where I go, I carry nine-tenths of all the community with me. I have traveled through New York and New England, am still on my taps, and have delivered three hundred lectures the past season, and every one tells. The colored population of Boston are waining away. Germans succeed the harbers, and over three thousand have huddled into the Sixth Ward. — They fall off in the free States three per cent, annually, amid all their blessings, and what hope remains for them amid a far superior and boldly aspiring people.

W.M. BROWN.

"Prof. Wm. Brown.—Editor of the *Syracuse Journal*: — I preceive, in your columns of the 10th instant, a rather free use made of the above caption. — There is manifestly some misunderstanding somewhere. It is the "African Aid Society," and not the *Fugitive Aid Society*, that I have represented, more, or less, for nearly two years. Our subjects of charity are now confined to the Queen's dominions entirely. If by reason of inattention or misconception, I have been misunderstood at any time, I hold not myself responsible — since my Circulars and Reports have invariably preceded my solicitations, whether public or private. I have also published my arrival, intentions and donations in everyshire town I have visited, and shall continue so to do. Wishing you much peace and prosperity, as well as all true friends of universal freedom, I remain

Very truly yours,

W.M. BROWN.

REMARKS.—It is proper that we should append to the above letter a few words of our own. We were, it seems, mistaken in relation to one word of the name belonging to the Society which Mr. Brown claims to present—but that is comparatively a trifling matter. — We said "Fugitive," he says "African." We beg that the public will note the difference and observe the distinction.

The history of this "African Aid Society" is soon told. There formerly existed in this city, a "Fugitive Aid Society." More than a year ago, the members of that Society concluded to dissolve the organization, deeming it unwise to maintain two institutions so essentially similar in their character and objects as the Fugitive Aid Society and the Underground Railroad Agency—which Agency was then, as it is now, in full blast. Of this Fugitive Aid Society Mr. Brown was the Agent. Soon after its dissolution, the "African Aid Society" was formed, for some reason, and Mr. Brown was appointed its Agent. A few months ago this Society was also broken up, and public notice was given of the fact.—This was the last we heard of the organization until we happened to notice that this Mr. Brown was soliciting contributions in its name in various portions of the country. On this point witness the following from the Utica *Herald*, of recent date:

AFRICAN AID SOCIETY.—Dr. William Brown, Agent for the African Aid Society, located in Syracuse, is in town to-day soliciting contributions. The object of this Society is to aid fugitive slaves on personal application; to feed and clothe them until rested and employed; and to encourage industry and education among them in Canada West. Its object is a laudable one, and the names of the officers are a sufficient guarantee that its affairs will be honestly and judiciously conducted.

If there is any such Society located in Syracuse we imagine that a microscope would be needed to discover it. None of our citizens seem to have any knowledge of it and we have sought in vain for its headquarters. If it exists at all, we venture the supposition that a single individual composes its entire official force—that is one man are combined President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Committee—in short, everything but "Agent," to which position Mr. Brown lays claim. Where is the fugitive he has "aided, fed and clothed?" Why all this exclusiveness and mystery?

If there is a bona fide "African Aid Society in Syracuse, why do not the people know all about it? That they do not is a fact that cannot be controverted.

But, says Mr. Brown, "our objects of charity are confined exclusively to the Queen's dominions." Are they? What is Mr. Brown doing "in the Queen's dominions?" The Rev. Hiram Wilson, of St. Catharine's, who has spent twenty years in the service of freedom and whose word will hardly be questioned, says that he is doing nothing there. It strikes us that Mr. Brown should be a little more definite upon this point. The public generally desires to know all the particulars in such cases. Can it be that he is so modest that he shrinks from letting the world know how much good he is accomplishing? If not, why is he so chary of his information?

We have thus made the public acquainted with the facts in this case—and have done so because we regarded it as a duty. Syracuse enjoys an enviable reputation abroad for her various humane and charitable systems; and it becomes us to frown upon any efforts which may have a tendency, sooner or later, to bring her into reproach.—*Syracuse Journal*.

Syracuse

December 10
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Dear Garrison

If you have not already done so, I wish you would put into the Liberator a portion of the statement made on the other side of this sheet. Mr Brown is really doing or certainly has done the Under Ground Rail Road much harm. He has, we fear, collected hundreds of dollars intended by their owners for ^{the} Fugitive Aid Committee.

Yours truly
Sam'l May